General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 January 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 69

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 2014

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.37 and Add.1)*]

69/134. Twentieth anniversary of the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/19 of 28 November 1995, 52/171 of 16 December 1997, 54/98 of 8 December 1999, 56/102 of 14 December 2001, 58/118 of 17 December 2003, 61/220 of 20 December 2006, 64/75 of 7 December 2009 and 67/84 of 13 December 2012,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

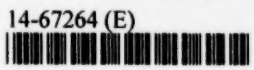
Recalling its resolution 49/139 B, in which it welcomed the establishment of a national volunteer corps called "White Helmets", undertaken in order to strengthen the standby capacity of developing countries, to support United Nations activities in the area of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as in the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Recalling also its resolution 66/67 of 5 December 2011 on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers, in which it noted that the momentum created by the Year had contributed to the vibrancy of volunteerism globally with the involvement of more people, from a broader cross-section of societies,

Recognizing, in the light of the increasing number and growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to utilize fully the national potential of countries to provide the United Nations system, on a standby basis, with support for its activities in the area of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as in the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, which should contribute to more coordinated responses in these fields,

Recalling its resolution 50/19, in which it encouraged voluntary national and regional actions aimed at making available to the United Nations system, through the United Nations Volunteers, national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets

14-67264 (E)



Please recycle

on a standby basis, in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures and practices, in order to provide specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation, and in that regard noted with satisfaction the establishment, in particular in developing countries, of national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets,

Recognizing the efforts being made by the White Helmets initiative to strengthen national, subregional and regional agreements in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Noting that in the 20 years since the launch of the White Helmets initiative, developing countries in a position to do so have shown a growing commitment to assisting communities in need through the provision of technical, human and material resources and cooperation, both in their fight against hunger and poverty and in the context of emergency response and international humanitarian assistance, and in this regard recognizing the efforts of the White Helmets initiative,

Welcomes the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of its first resolution on the White Helmets initiative,[1] and in line with resolution 67/84 reiterates its invitation that the Secretary-General, on the basis of the work experience acquired by the White Helmets in the international field, suggest measures to enhance the collaboration of the White Helmets initiative with the United Nations system and report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session in a separate section of the annual report on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

70th plenary meeting
12 December 2014

---

[1] Resolution 49/139 B.